HIGHLAND REDEVELOMPENT COMMISSION STUDY SESSION MINUTES WEDNESDAY, March 26, 2008

The Highland Redevelopment Commission ("RC", "Commission") met in Study Session on Wednesday, March 26, 2008, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers within the Municipal Building at 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana. The Study Session was called to order by Commissioner Jim Kessler. The minutes were prepared by Cecile Petro, Redevelopment Director.

ROLL CALL: Present on silent roll call were Commissioners Brice Johnson, Dominic Noce, and Jim Kessler. Absent with notice was Adam Gawlikowski. Also in attendance were Economic Development Commissioner George VandeWerken and Redevelopment Director Cecile Petro.

General Substance of the Study Session

1. Riverfront Development District

Commissioners discussed the boundaries of the Riverfront Development District (RDD) and proposed that the entire area between Indianapolis Boulevard and Fifth Street and from the Little Calumet River and Ross Street be considered in the RDD. The Director will provide a resolution to that effect for the next public meeting.

2. Redevelopment Area Expansion

The Director provided the Commission with information on five possible areas for expansion in 2008. The Commission discussed the possibilities and suggested that Commissioner Gawlikowski comment on the options before one is selected.

3. Economic Development Area Plan

The Commission should receive information at their next meeting on changes in the Economic Development Area Plan that would eliminate the wording for a change to a Redevelopment Area Plan. Cender and Company will rewrite the Plan and Attorney Green-Fraley will review.

4. Tax Abatement Request from Bell Supply

The Director indicated that the Commission could recommend tax abatement for Bell Parts Supply at the next public meeting. The Commission's recommendation will be forwarded to the Town Council for its approval.

5. Bult Oil

The County must correct mistakes in the Quit Claim Deed for Bult Oil before it can be recorded by the Town. The Commission will review the current zoning for the Bult Oil property and consider a recommendation to the Plan Commission for a change in the zoning classification for that area.

6. Oak Park, Illinois visit

Director Petro summarized her recent visit with Public Works Director John Bach to the public works facility in Oak Park, Illinois. This four story facility totals two acres under roof.

7. Summons
The Director reported that she has received a summons on behalf of the Commission from a property owner. No action is needed by the Commission and the Town's attorney is taking care of the issue.

8. Other issues

A Commissioner asked if the Girl Scout building on Highway Avenue was sold. The Director stated that it is being handled by a realtor and is not sold.

The Study Session was adjourned at 9:30PM.